

House Resolution 1586

By: Representative Knox of the 24<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 10, 2010, as Catholic Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the Catholic presence in Georgia began with Spanish missionaries in the 16th  
3 Century; and

4 WHEREAS, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Savannah was established on July 3, 1850, with  
5 its territory extending over the entire State of Georgia, and included a total of about 5,000  
6 Catholics; and

7 WHEREAS, the Diocese of Atlanta was established in 1956 by separating the northern 69  
8 counties of the state, giving the state two dioceses, Savannah and Atlanta; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1962 the Diocese of Atlanta was elevated to the status of Archdiocese,  
10 becoming the center of an Ecclesiastical Province which now covers the States of Georgia,  
11 North Carolina, and South Carolina; and

12 WHEREAS, the Diocese of Savannah now covers 90 counties in South Georgia, serving a  
13 population of approximately 80,000 Catholics in 54 parishes and 25 missions and mission  
14 stations; and

15 WHEREAS, the Diocese of Savannah also serves five Catholic high schools, 16 elementary  
16 schools, two Catholic hospitals, and many other social service facilities, all of which are  
17 available to all persons without discrimination; and

18 WHEREAS, the Archdiocese of Atlanta now has a Catholic population of nearly 750,000  
19 with 99 parishes and missions; and

20 WHEREAS, there are nine Catholic high schools, 21 elementary schools, five Catholic  
21 health care facilities, as well as other social service agencies available to all persons without  
22 discrimination in the Archdiocese of Atlanta; and

23 WHEREAS, the Archdiocese of Atlanta and the Diocese of Savannah have, through their  
24 institutions and their people, reached out to serve all people in Georgia, whether newcomers  
25 or long established families, from all parts of the world, including refugees, immigrants, and  
26 those seeking asylum from religious and political oppression.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body commend the many members of the Catholic faith in Georgia for  
29 their commitment to the spiritual and temporal welfare of the state and recognize March 10,  
30 2010, as Catholic Day at the state capitol.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
32 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to members of the public and  
33 press.